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Short communications on systematics of Cleridae.

2. The genus *Eucymatodera* Schenkling, 1899.

(Coleoptera, Cleridae, Tillinae)

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Abstract

Following systematic changes within the genus *Eucymatodera* Schenkling, 1899 are proposed: *Tillus speciosus* Gorham, 1883, transferred by Menier (1986) to *Eucymatodera*, cannot be synonymized with "*Tillus*" *tricolor* (Fabricius, 1781), and must be retained as *Eucymatodera speciosa* (Gorham, 1883). *Tillus humeralis* Schenkling, 1899 must also be transferred to the genus *Eucymatodera*. The two syntypes of *Eucymatodera variabilis* Schenkling, 1899 belong to different species, one is the true *Eucymatodera variabilis*. It is designated the lectotype of this species. The second specimen belongs to *Tilloidea senegalensis* Castelnau, 1832 which in turn must be transferred to the genus *Eucymatodera*.

Species of the tilline genus *Eucymatodera* Schenkling, 1899 are known from Nubia (Northern Sudan), East Africa, Senegal and Southern Africa (Corporaal 1950). Menier (1986) transferred *Tillus speciosus* Gorham, 1883 correctly to the genus *Eucymatodera* and synonymized this species with *Tillus tricolor* (Fabricius, 1781). The latter step was a mistake, since I had the opportunity to study the type of "*Tillus*" *tricolor* with the result that *Tillus tricolor* (described by Fabricius as *Clerus*) is not a clerid at all, but a member of the family Languriidae. Possibly the similar colour pattern of the elytra – dark blue, red and black (*tricolor*!) – made the specialists to believe that specimens of *speciosus* are identical with *tricolor*, without checking the Fabrician holotype. After recognizing that *Clerus tricolor* Fabricius, 1781, is a languriid, I studied the revision of Villiers (1961), where the author mentioned the synonymy of *Clerus tricolor* with *Clerolangurus tricolor* (Languriidae). Therefore, *Eucymatodera speciosa* can be preserved.

Bruneau de Miré & Mateu (1964) on the other hand synonymized *Tillus speciosus* Gorham, 1883 with *Teloclerus* Schenkling, 1903, and, in a later publication (Mateu 1972), illustrated two Saharian specimens (male and female), which are totally different from *Eucymatodera speciosa*, but identical with *Wittmeridecus mediozonatus* (Fairmaire, 1892).

Eucymatodera speciosa (Gorham, 1883) was recorded from North Ethiopia (Keren, "Abyssinia") and Somalia. New records are now reported from Tanzania (Chimala, 1400m, 58 mi. E. of Mbeya; CRG; Uhehe, 1905, Ertl; DEI; "Madibéra" = ? Madibira, near Lake Nyassa; ZSM), Kenya (DEI), Uganda (Uganda Central, Région de Boujongolo, Ch. Alluaus 1909; MNHN) and Zimbabwe (Sebakwe, D. Dods; DEI).

Tillus humeralis Schenkling, 1899 from Somalia (Holotype MCSN; Ganana) has coarsely facetted eyes and must therefore be transferred to the genus *Eucymatodera*.

Another interesting aspect is the situation with *Eucymatodera variabilis* Schenkling, 1899, from which two syntypes exist in MCSN. These belong to different species: one specimen is identical with *Tilloidea senegalensis* Castelnau, 1832, the second remains as a species of its own and retains the name *Eucymatodera variabilis*. This specimen I designate the lectotype of *Eucymatodera variabilis*. It bears the following labels: Margabelah, 29.8., Ragazzi 1884; Typus (printed, red on white card); *variabilis* Schenkl. (hand-written); Syntypus *Eucymatodera variabilis* Schenkling, 1899; Museo Civico di Genova.

Regarding the generic position, *Tilloidea senegalensis* (with coarsely facetted eyes) has to be transferred to the genus *Eucymatodera* (in both *Tillus* and *Tilloidea* the eyes are finely facetted). As stated by Bruneau de Miré & Mateu (1964), *Tilloidea pubescens* Castelnau, 1836 is also a synonym of *Tilloidea senegalensis*, resp. *Eucymatodera senegalensis*.

Eucymatodera senegalensis (Castelnau, 1832) has the widest known distribution of all species of the genus, and ranges from North and West Africa (Span. Sahara, Mauretania, Senegal) through the whole of the Sahara, to Israel, the Arabian peninsula, Ethiopia, and Somalia. There is also an isolated record from South Africa.

Abbreviations

CRG = Collection R. Gerstmeier, München
DEI = Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Eberswalde
MCSN = Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Genova
MNHN = Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris
ZSM = Zoologische Staatssammlung, München

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